

not shown). Another method of supporting ice chest items in accordance to the embodiment described in **Figure 2** is utilizing a cord-type material instead of a rigid frame, which can be used to border the fabric. This application is also demonstrated in **Figure 3** wherein the suspension device can be mounted or molded to the inside of a cooler 303 at or near the top of the cooler inner wall by using said straps 103. As in the embodiment illustrated in Figure 1, said cord locks 104 are used to adjust and secure said cord material 102. Items can be suspended inside the flexible fabric 108 while allowing access underneath. An individual can easily move the elastic cord and fabric aside allowing items to pass between the fabric and ice chest walls.

The forgoing description details certain embodiments of the invention. It will be appreciated, however, that no matter how detailed the forgoing appears in text, the invention can be practiced in many ways. As is stated above, it should be noted that the use of particular terminology when describing certain features or aspects of the invention should not be taken to imply that the terminology is being re-defined herein to be restricted to including any specific characteristics of the features or aspects of the invention with which that terminology is associated. The scope of the invention should therefore be construed in accordance with the appended claims and any equivalents thereof.

Claims

I claim:

1. A suspension device for ice chest contents including ice cubes or the like against or in close proximity to the underside of a ice chest lid, comprising:
 - (a) Flexible fabric that is relatively visually transparent to view contents, sieve-like properties which would enable water droplets within the device to drop to the bottom of the ice chest, thin enough to maximize space and strong enough to support common items typically stored in a portable cooler or ice chest and has an area large enough to support the maximum volume of items; said fabric can be made of polyester, nylon, wool, cotton, plastic, or any compound or material that is capable of producing a thin, flexible, transparent and relatively strong material; said fabric may span the entire area of the underside of the ice chest lid, but may be any size less than that area.

(b) Four outer edges or sides bordered with a cord-type material to help support the outer edges of the fabric thus preventing the contents from falling out over the edges. This cord-type material can be woven or weaved into the fabric thus providing a way to disassemble the device and make alterations to the dimensions of the fabric so as to accommodate several different size ice chests. Alternatively, a channel or hem may be permanently sewn into the edges utilizing traditional sewing methods and techniques that are characteristic to the fabric used; finishing off the edges with a hem provides a permanent channel wherein said cord can be inserted.

(c) Loop-type fasteners or the like to attach said cord and said fabric to the ice chest; said fasteners can be mounted to or molded to the underside of an ice chest lid or at or near the top of the inner walls of the ice chest; said fasteners can be made of various material such as metal, steel, aluminum, plastic or the like or any compound or material that is capable of producing a rigid, semi-rigid or flexible body.

(d) A cord locking device that allows the cord tension to be adjusted allowing the outer dimensions of the fabric to expand or contract to fit various sizes of ice chests and to accommodate different sizes or numbers of various items that can be suspended from the device. Once the proper tension is established the cord lock secures the cord in place; said cord can be made of any type material that is stretchable such as shock cord/bungee cord that is typically made with a fabric sheath that encases a rubber band-like or elastic core, or alternatively no-stretch cordage material such as rope, webbing, straps, bands, wire, string, etc, or the like.

2. Any and said device as defined in claim 1 mounted on top or near the top of rigid ice chests wherein said fasteners are attached or molded to the inner surface or top surface of the ice chest walls.

3. A device for suspending food items and other contents typically stored in a rigid bodied ice chest wherein a ridge is present inside said ice chest, just below or several inches below the top lip of the said ice chest comprising:

(a) A four-sided frame wherein at least two members are adjustable to enable the frame to expand or contract to snugly fit on top of said ridge at or near the top of the ice chest.